THE EXCITER

Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.

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VHF and UP

As with June, July was a very good Sporadic E month, with openings on more than half the days at 50 mc.

Field Day stations were helped by these openings and W5SC on 50 ms. worked 96 stations. Operators were K5PIB, K5HYF and K5JWK. Equipment used was Communicator (6 watts out and a 3 element Yagi.

K5VLE, Six Meter Club station, operated by K5PWX and others was located at Camp Bullis.

On 28 June, conditions were so good, stations from Mexico City, Cuba, Florida, and New England were heard at the same time. Such a wide area of coverage calls for a huge ionic cloud spread over thousands of miles. This same day, signals up to 53 mc. were heard, including many stations using FM. K500J worked K1GTJ, Maine, for a rare state on Six.

A commercial FM station on 49.0 mc. in Havana, Cuba, has been received for up to 6 hours a day and as long as 2 hours after 50 mc. closed down. It's called "Radio Progresso."

On 12 July, K5PIB set up home on 53 mc. and worked out fine during this good day. Other signals were heard up to 53.5 mc., showing that all of Six meters *is* good! This same day in the AM, W5KRH heard 30 stations in the SM band, 88-108 mc. He identified stations in Tucson and Cleveland.

This listening technique was used by W5JLY back in 1947 when he used a Pilot Tuner to monitor the FM band. When many out of town FM stations were heard, he'd switch to 144 mc. and work many distant contacts. This is good proof that on occasion Es can reflect signals much above 100 m. since the distances involved were those typical of Es and not ducting.

Speaking of ducting, W6NLZ and KH6UK have done it again. They covered the 2540 mile path, not on 144 mc. as before, but on 222 mc! The contact lasted for 53 minutes on 20 June with S7 signals. See August QST for details.

Several severe radio disturbances occurred during the month. One on 16 July left the complete sky-wave spectrum dead. No signals could be heard from 2-50 mc. except for locals.

On 18 July, K500J worked KP4-CKN and W5VY worked KP4's AAN, ACH, ALF, ALL and CK. VY also has all cards for 50 mc. WAC and 25 countries for DXCC. Pat will soon have to move to Derwin King's column.

All is not lost. W5VY received a card from F8ZF for a 50 mc. contact. He got the card in '59; the contact took place in '47! Great solar cycles, and regards.

Cal Graf, W5LFM
207 Addax Drive
DI-45032

FIELD DAY

The word Field Day has just about died down in our ears, and Cole Crump "this year's Field Day Chairman" has come up with a pretty impressive score. There were a total of about 2375 contacts and a score in excess of 19,000 points, so we think that we did pretty good considering

the condition of some of the bands.

The fact that we had the Helicoptor out there to stir up a little publicity helped out considerably. Our thanks to Army Mars for swinging that deal for us. They really went all out to help us. I guess from now on W5SC will be known as The Whirly-Bird Station.

LADIES CLUB

The first meeting in the month of August will be held at The Gunter Hotel. The program for this meeting will be a talk on "Safety In The Home". We would like to see as many ladies present as can possibly make it, as this is something that is of interest to everyone.

The second meeting of the month will be August 21, and will be held at Leona Crumps' home at 82 Pilgrim Drive just off West Ave.

You don't have to be a member of the club to attend these meetings, so come on out and meet with us, we would like to meet all of you.

S T E N CONVENTION

The plans for the 14th Annual South Texas Emergency Net convention to be held at Kerrville, Texas August 28, 29, and 30, are in the final stages. They are really going to have a good one this year, and all members and friends are invited to join in the events.

Transmitter hunts will be held Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning on 75 meters. So transmitter hunters bring your loops.

Friday evening, there will be a Barbecue at Louise Hayes Park. Don't miss it.

Business meetings and tech. sessions will be held Saturday.

Derwin King W5LUU, and Irving Seligmann W5UB, are to be the technical speakers.

Swimming is to be the order of the day Saturday afternoon for everyone, and children under 12 are to be admitted free.

No convention is complete without a dance, which will be held Saturday night.

A full program is planned to entertain the Ladies, so fellows don't forget to bring the XYL, or she will miss a grand time.

The final event is to the Banquet Sunday noon, at which time there will be drawing for prizes.

Make your reservations early. The price of your registration is $4.00. Send them to Cedric Tolar, Kerrville, Texas. Write the Bluebonnet Hotel for your room reservations.

MOBILE

The Mobile activity has been somewhat steady the past few months,

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with a little more growing interest in this phase of Ham Radio.

The July transmitter hunt was really a good hunt with Denny K9GIR hiding out on the Scenic Loop. There were eight hunters this time, with Ralph W5THU coming in first, Gene W5EJT second, Theo W5OZQ third.

We have two new hunters with the group now, John K5ABL, and Parks W5UNE. We are glad to see some new faces behind those loops, and would like to invite everyone out to the hunts. The hunts start at 1:30 P.M. at Olmos Park, on the Sunday following the first meeting of each month. So come on out and hunt with us.

A lot of mobiles are coming through this part of the country around this time of the year, so let's work them and welcome them to South Texas.

73's Gene W5EJT

GUTTER DOPE

Boy-oh-boy, the towers have really been going up here lately. George Loos, Denny Royce, Charlie Hildebrant, Gene Jank, and (hold your breath; Willard is about ready).

The Army Mars picnic out at Ft. Sam was enjoyed by one and all. That is after the rain stopped. It rained for about the first hour we were there, but that just served to cool everything off so we could enjoy our swim even more. There were some nice prizes given out at the drawing also.

A lot of interest is building up on converting some of the commercial gear that Bob Clark W5OIK has made available to a lot of the Hams in this area. Most of the fellows are putting them on 6 meters.

I wonder what kind of odds we could get on some bets that Sid W5-KLW doesn't last through this year on that motor scooter of his. Boy; two wheels just aren't enough to help dodge these people around this town.

Pierre

PROGRAM

The program for the meeting Friday Night will be a talk given on "Converting the URC/4 Walkie Talkie transmitter-receiver", by Theo Jett W5OZQ. Theo and some of the other boys have recently been very busy converting these units and have learned a lot about them. He will have some of them to demonstrate for us. These units have been selling at Kelly and other places for about $3.00 recently, and about ten or twelve of the fellows have them working like a charm.

Latest Stork Derby results show that The R. B. Wanglers' W5EDZ are leading with an addition to their family of a son. Mother and son are reported doing well. We haven't been able to reach the father for comment yet, as he is still in orbit.

I think second and third place winners are going to be a photo finish in about November for the Crumps' W5-

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DKF, and Munches' W5VPQ/W5-TSE.

Congrats are in order for Johnny W5LVE, and Francis W5KQJ, on the knot tying ceremony recently. Many happy returns of the day.

Pierre

For Sale

1 Hammurlund HQ-140X receiver with matching speaker $140.00
1 Central Electronics 10-A SSB exciter with QT-1 Anti Trip, and all coils. Also deluxe 458 VFO (in matching cabinet) ... $90.00

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